

Silver Spring: Feb. 3. 1849.

My dear Sir

The newspaper etc. etc. admires
water rule it, the Taylor party has had me so
easily with sketches for this. You ~~are~~ ^{are} doing
well. That I depend on sending you my weekly
missive, but having written them so many times
I resolved to bring it back as the last news
I send soon -

I have not visited the city for several
days, but I know that there are a sort of
little meetings going on to keep up in both sides
the party activity which give this country
a personal bias upon the roads, and their im-
portance - The Polk side finished their
meeting so near midnight in the first place
that permission was held by their friends as
party members to meet them on all the
roads of four years, again in the Taylor road
passing that having won the victory of 1840
the very day they were going off they
should pass up at Broad - Vista

and held their place between the two Dr.
on side of the Chamber on the other - the
party agrees of the incoming of young men
during controversy, hence Sharpe came
to an agreement with their friends
in the two houses, seems to have
ratified that both should be supported
as equal friends. Only Seaton
was to have the Prairie & Fletcher
the Senator. Bob McNamee
told Peirce yesterday that they
had agreed upon a ^{new} ^{old} ^{new} ^{old} ^{new}
Agreement the purpose of the resolution
now in the Senate delaying the
opening of the lists for the election
until the two houses, which were
to have come off on Saturday, shall
have been organized (or the
Senate etc) before the opening of the
lists until the joint action of both
houses on the question of the

Rev'd, sent in a box, which probably
would supplement the contents of the
opposite factories & he is now too big now
the manager will be away of the week go
on as Society's printer w. the New Globe
establishment - This is all they have at the
time to get experience in another quarter
to break up the one with the other - The
whole scene of partying & getting up the
responsible politics which runs up to the whole -
House and outside friends in future years
to be an all working man, makes me fear
such a disagreeably unbalanced
man New State down but too necessary that
it is a false position for me of course
that I am ~~not~~ ^{not} going to get into the desk
business or except from time to time
should I feel my mind by trying for an
independent office. I may be in dependent
in a small way at some Spring in
you will at Boston well? I often say

1844
what
I can't say to another but what may
more good opinion about him if you
affectionately yours J. M. Blair

With our
affectionate regards to your wife & children
and to all the family.
We remain
Yours very truly
F. P. Blair

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Saturday Evening Feb 11 1849

My dear Sir

I have not been to the City
since I last wrote to you and only hear that
there is a sort of voluntary man in politics,
consequent of the various persons spending
money out of the exchequer state office
floating round that approach. The members
all are Indian soldiers, nothing over £1000 per
year those presented by conjecture only from
various directions, including & counting a small
allowing themselves in which it is found
amount to an other floating to what
the rightwood motions. The Whigs who
are in the City of India have no tendency
to hope of fear from Taylor. The idea is
in hope of moderation from the chief executive
from the prospect of suspending Whitney
and Whig is in favor of forbearance.
I hope the cabinet will be occupied - Then
considering feelings are strongly displayed in
the City by the spirit which is manifested about
the Aborigines that are to become
the chief energy with other states. - The Whigs

Balk

proper are organizing an extensive conspiracy,
that, by seizing the City Hall, where the Republicans
make their "convention" of the war, will
remove us from power - This is the party
platform to which the general is to be seen
meant to be surrendered by the faithful class.
The Taylor wings, however, are all
hopeful concerning who will be made the
best of his kick, & it will come the most
natural of the wings have tried Jackson
Hall, & are making out efforts to carry the
convention off. I am told, that General
Simpson has given his voice for
Leake's Division, & you would look for
a split between such good friends as
the old day South & New England for the old
Regime in favor of the new oligarchy
moderates - Now the latter are quite de-
lighted that they've got their old country
back, & the general that they are satisfied
with the new. They will be
very much stronger.

More than this, I do not know, for
I suffered from appendicitis
and was afraid to have a very conference
of affairs, so my new organ, I must say,
will be very difficult with the publication to go

our friend Jasius Park, &c., said though
his good lady seems to show hospitality
on his account, and I do not, the whole
tribe around him from the Black river
will be disinclined by cupidity - They are of
the native spirit to favor a more adroit
than out - as all men who are desirous to
acquire power by foul means, are soon
ready to bring to precipitation - Park is
an advocate for the proprietary form of govt.
who have stand in his golden opinion
balance lost to the future practice of the
American people to violate their obligation
to the Indians - and this is to be their
punishment - like Esop's fables they will
be every four years rolling a stone up
to the top of the hill to come thitherby
down with their buffetted hopes -

The copy of preceding was laid off
to one of the men in Mr. Calhoun's office - The price
was 20 p[er] cent below that of the blank paper & the
presumption is that it was a mere sham of
John C. Calhoun (who is ¹⁸¹⁴⁻⁵ believed supposed) document
printed to defeat the contract system to
claim the western open for the west Congress -
¹⁸¹⁴⁻⁵ ~~House of Indian Policy index~~ laid in the House Library
and under the 9th ~~Calhoun~~

Welles' chance I think would be small and before
than now. Indeed I don't yet see how he can stand
as he will be "voted" at the Calhoun's fraction etc.
desperately. Joe Gilmer (C. & W. Campbell) to have
now, for the "organ" which endures the name
united with Webster of now, always f-
riendly of the Dixie (now ~~Abolition~~ current in
both the "Pictorium" and "Budget of
the Union" both are carrying in their
Taylor - Falls, "having voted" the Clay -
Clay - He deplored many days ago
to the Senate - having others that he had
seen very hostile action from Clay
to the Taylor side of the House - If
Falls is retained, there must be a peace
for him; or if no peace, organized to take
the party out... must be known
in the head to make an effort first
upon the white Abolition to make
great ~~funny~~ ^{funny} mistakes in holding
to open the country by, so as the effect
will be to provide for an appeal
Please make application to Larrick
officially to your Secy. of State for
H. M. May.

No one is a common person. None has ever been a brute.

R.C.P.

*To vex a saint, I'll tell him I'll quit—
I'll—but no, he'll like that too well. The
brute.*

*I won't please him so much. I'll stay
if it kills me, and Willie shall have an
orange if he wants it and, no thanks to
him either. There he comes again, and
both hands full. Wonder what he has
got now, and who else he's running for?
Coming through the gate, and yes—
both pockets full of oranges. The
dear soul; I knew he wouldn't forget his
own children. Won't Willie have a
good meal? And I will—yes, he shall
have muffins for supper.*

*That's all we heard, dear reader, for
when Slocum opened the hall door,
Charlie, Willie, wife and all, went out
to meet him, and get some of those or-
anges.*

*Mrs. Slocum did get supper, and Slo-
cum had muffins.*

Degeneracy of Southern Politicians.

*It will be remembered, not merely for the pres-
ent, but for all time in our future history, that
when a resolution was adopted in the House of
Representatives of our Republic, to abolish the
Slave trade in the Nation's capital, a caucus of
Southern members was called; a majority of
which seemed willing to resort to violence, rather
than submit to the abolition of the Slave-
trade. Let us look for a moment at the Past,
when the South was represented by democrats
not merely in name, but in deed.*

*Read the following, and then determine whether
degeneracy could sink farther:*

*This is not the first effort which has been made
to discontinue this traffic. It has frequently been
laid before Congress; and as early as the year
1816, the fearless John Randolph, a Virginian
slave-holder himself, introduced a resolution in
these words:*

*Resolved. That a committee be appointed to inquire
into the existence of any inhuman and illegal traffic in
slaves, carried on in and through the District of Colum-
bia, and to report whether any, and what measures are
necessary for putting a stop to the same.*

*This proposition was advocated with the ability
for which that distinguished statesman was so
conspicuous. Its characterized the slave trade as
"inhuman, illegal, horrid, and abominable," and those
engaged in it as "villains," and concluded by uttering the declaration, that "If the business
was declined by the House, he would undertake it himself, and ferret out of their holes and cor-
ners the villains who carried it on."*

*The House of Representatives then contained
many distinguished men, such as Messrs. Cal-
houn and Lowndes, of S. C.; P. B. Barbour, of
Va.; John Forsyth, of Ga.; Nathaniel Macon, of
N. C., and so on. Yet these southern members,
all slave-holders, raised no opposition, nor created
any excitement on Mr. Randolph's proposition.*

*Again. During the session of 1820, resolutions
were adopted in the House, similar in character to
that of Mr. Randolph's, and were adopted by the
strong majority of 64 votes. Among other distin-
guished names in the affirmative, we notice, from
New York, those of Silas Wright, Michael Hef-
fens, and Churchill C. Cambreleng.*

Daily Wisconsin.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

Daily, Tri-Weekly, and Weekly

PUBLISHED BY CHAMER & CURTIS.

Thursday Evening, Feb. 15.

*Notice to Advertisers.—All advertisements
intended for this evening paper, must be handed in before
11 o'clock, A.M., to ensure an insertion on the same day.*

NEWSPAPER CHANGES.

*We should have noticed before, the appearance
of the Washington Daily Globe. It is revived at
a most suitable time—at the close of the present
Administration. The Globe at present is a neu-
tral paper—principally occupied with Congres-
sional matter, but we have no doubt, that in time
it will become the National Organ of the sincere
radical Democracy of the Union, and that it will
wield its strong arm against the extension of
Slavery. This will all come, in good time. The
Union has unfortunately abandoned the National
Democracy, and thrown its influence in favor of
the sectional views of the ultra slave interest.—
The editor of the Union was once a warm disci-
pilie of Jackson, but common sense at once
says, that those who favor the extension of Slave-
ry, have discarded the principles of Jefferson.*

*This is the reason why there is so much re-
joicing at the appearance of the Globe. Blair,
Rives & Pickott have capital and mind, and they
are thus prepared for a position which will be one
of the first in America. In a slave region, to ad-
vocate the cause of the White laborer, is the proper
place to meet the arrogance of those who fa-
vor the extension of Slavery.*

*Ex-Gov. Clark has taken the State Gazette
at Burlington, Iowa, which he established some
years since. The improvement in its columns is
at once manifest, and with pleasure we hail his
return to the profession. The Troy Budget and
Troy Commercial are sold, and Wm. W.
Whitman, of Mass., has become the editor.*

*The Pennsylvanian, a journal known for its
ability, throughout the Union, appeared in a new
and beautiful dress, on the 1st of January. We
are gratified to perceive this evidence of prosperity
on the part of our friend Fonda, while this im-
provement adds still more interest to its well-filled
columns.*

*We group these newspaper changes together,
occurring widely apart, as they do, as thus is
the peculiar history of progress and change in our
country clearly illustrated.*

Clipping from the Daily Wisconsin

Library of Congress, MVB Papers
[With Francis] Preston] Blair notation]

February 15, 1849

1 pages

my dear Sir

Lindenwood
Feb 16. 49.

many & very sincere thanks
to you for your interesting letter.
The plot will remain with you for
the next three weeks, & I am - truly
happy to be assured that your
patience will not give out. after
that necessary stages will lie over
their month, & their places supplied
by me. Now rest assured, & then
I will give you a respite until
the new house has had time to
permeat & rot.

You had a slight fit
of Melancholy when you wrote your
letter before the last, from which
I am happy to see that you
have entirely recovered. I would
have replied to it at once but
in home treason presented by an

any severe cold, white noon,
I can hardly say to say brought
no blues in its train.

If your law asked my opinion
in regard to the subject you well
know before you entered upon it I
should have brought to its division
different considerations from those
upon which my opinion will now be found.
My opinion will now be found
in full page. As matters stand
your enemies would say that
~~had failed~~ your ~~goal~~ upon the good will
of the public had been tried
and failed. This is nothing in this
matter that calls for such an
excuse. Although I hold it
unwise to involve ourselves
in trouble for the mere purpose
of revenging those who deserve
an enemy, I would still

Dear son,
I am sorry to have taken so long to write you
as I suppose that would please you.
Therefore I would not advise
you to take that suggestion. Had
it in your power to take the next
best - that is to let things go on
in their present direction, and
since myself no sort of consider-
ation, about the result. There is
no point of view in which it
ought to do so. By doing so as
it suits you. For the present plan
is a good one. There is no
easier reason why you should
not do both, except perhaps your
being one of Pharaoh's horses
King may operate against the latter.
But a man may laugh not-
withstanding, The who laughs
wins. It is impossible to consider
the circumstances which attend
the days before the South,

(ever incurring large amounts of money
which wish to view it differently) will
not find in them proof positive
of a mutual & settled antislavery belief
in the ~~present~~ General. If the
former commits no overt acts until the
disappointed gather about him in
masses, as they in that case especially
will, he may make himself
formidable. In the mean time,
destroy his appetite, he may
inflict or few stripes on Webster
with whom nothing symbolic
I hope you will receive from
me in which I refer to the
proceedings of the Ohio delegates
upon the slave subject. We have
it intensely cold. Our men have
firs into the snow bed, and the
work goes on notwithstanding the
heat. Gravelly. Very kind regards to
all your - household & truly your
T. P. Blair & friend
W. W. Blair

House of Representatives
[6th Feb 1849.]

Mr John Fine My dear Sir
The Bryant & May of
the Senate of the United States
in examining the Constitution of
Iowa, find in the Judicial term,
of the State, or rather of the County
of inferior courts of record and
non-jurisdictional, that the
former consist of a chief justice
and associate elected by a joint
vote of both branches of the Leg-
islature - the date of their election
to fix at any, or until so appointed
by law. There is no provision in
the Constitution of this state.

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W[illiam] Collins to John Fine

February 16, 1849

Library of Congress, MVB Papers

4 pages (total 9)

[With: Memorandum regarding Judicial System of England; Notes, in
hand of Smith Thompson Van Buren, regarding appointment of judges
in the American states]

The State is divided into franchises
The District Court consists of a judge,
elected by the people of his district
for the term of 5 years. It is
a court of law, equity -
by this is meant the common law
trial of controversies consists
of the regular trials, they are
also Superior, & Circuit Courts.
The State is also divided into five
circuits. The people of each circuit
elect a judge, whose term of office
is six years - for the term
of five years, from the day
they shall attain their age,
circuit judges shall be judges.

W[illiam] Collins to John Fine

February 16, 1849.

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of the law between the legislatures
with their executive heads, the former,
after a ^{legislative} election to consist
of a ^{legislative} assembly, & two ^{executive}
chosen by the election of the state
to be vice - ^{vice} ^{viceregal}, are filled
by the ^{legislative} election a new election
to be held - ^{the} ^{legislative} of the state or
Court may be ac-
quired from office by adding
of the ^{legislative} ^{the} ^{legislative} ^{the} ^{legislative}
elected to hold ^{the} ^{legislative} ^{the} ^{legislative}
^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative}
The ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative}
shall be second ^{and} ^{and} ^{and} ^{and} ^{and}
of the ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative}
be ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative}
in ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative}
the ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative} ^{legislative}
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W[illiam] Collins to John Fine

February 16, 1849

Library of Congress, MVB Papers

4 pages (total 9)

[With: Memorandum regarding Judicial System of England; Notes, in
hand of Smith Thompson Van Buren, regarding appointment of judges
in the American states]

Yours etc W C

I have heard it reported that
Major General Polk has been offered
an appointment to the Senate, and
the Mexican Party - but cannot
swear for the accuracy of the
statement - If Mr. Douglass did
before he signed over the despatch
it to the House - The "S. Carolina"
meeting off on it - The "Missis"
question has been his cause - He
will not sign it to the House - The
Southern men especially the iron
Ex. L. & Co. with their
the "S. Carolinians" in combination
with the "South Carolina"
by the "Mississippi" sends his verdict
Very truly yours
W. C. Collins

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[With: Memorandum regarding Judicial System of England; Notes, in
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... court of common law is to try - trials are
... impossible to account except by accident and
... other cases, which it is intended will not
... be few. In New England, the King is considered
the fountain of justice and conservator of the
... peace, and alone has the right of creating
courts of justice. This was his business.

Their jurisdiction is derived from the
King. Their proceedings are in his name, and
under his head, and executed by officers ap-
pointed by him. In early times, the King, in person,
often heard and determined causes. After-
wards, he delegated the power to the judges
of different courts whom he appointed to hold,
during his pleasure.

By the act of 13. William III.
these Commissions are changed to the term
1346. of good behavior, and their salaries are

are fixed - but it is lawful to remove them, on
the address of both houses of Parliament

By the Statute of 2 Ann, their com-
missions were continued six months beyond
the service of the crown's ministers, &
previous to this, their offices became
vacant on the death of the King.

But by the Statute of 11 & 12 Geo. II, re-
commended by the King, the judges were con-
tinued in office during their good behavior,
notwithstanding any demise of the Crown.

W[illiam] Collins to John Fine

February 16, 1849

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[With: Memorandum regarding Judicial System of England; Notes, in
hand of Smith Thompson Van Buren, regarding appointment of judges
in the American states]

Judge Fine
Matters of the
Election of Judges

W[illiam] Collins to John Fine

February 16, 1849

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[With: Memorandum regarding Judicial System of England; Notes, in hand of Smith Thompson Van Buren, regarding appointment of judges in the American states]

<u>Alabama</u>	Judge appointed by joint ballot.	<u>Maine</u>	Judges appointed by legislature. 1809. Held during good behavior, but not beyond the age of 70 years.
July 5, 1819	Held during good behavior. Disqualified at 70 years of age. May be removed, for cause, by Gov. or Dept. of 1/3 of each house.	<u>Maryland</u>	Judges appointed by Gov. & Senate. Held during good behavior. 1776. 1837.
<u>Connecticut</u>	Basically similar to the above as to Sept. 1818. Judges of Supreme Court & Superior Court. All other judges & justices of the Peace appointed annually. Same limitation as to age.	<u>Massachusetts</u>	Held during good behavior. 1779-80.
<u>Delaware</u>	Same provisions: except that I Dec. 1831. do not find any limitation as to age.	<u>Mississippi</u>	Judges elected by electors for 4 years: removed by Gov. on the advice of 2/3 of legislature.
<u>Georgia</u>	"The judges of the superior court 1798. shall be elected for the term of 3 years." May be removed by Gov. on advice of 1/3 of both houses. Justice of inferior courts & Justices of the Peace elected annually by the electors. * The "election" is probably by the Genl assembly - although it does not clearly appear.	<u>Michigan</u>	Judges appointed by Gov. & Senate 1820. to hold during good behavior - but not after the age of 65.
<u>Illinois</u>	Judges appointed by legislature, held 1818. during good behavior; may be removed as in Alabama.	<u>New Hampshire</u>	Judges appointed by Gov. & Council 1792. to hold during good behavior - but not after the age of 70.
<u>Indiana</u>	Judges of Supreme Court appointed by 1816. Gov. & Senate; Residents of circuit Courts by joint ballot; Associate Judges of circuit courts by the genl. elected electors in the respective com- munity. All to hold for 7 years if they shall so long behave well.	<u>New Jersey</u>	Judges appointed by Council & Assembly 1776. Highest Court for 7 yrs. & prior, for 5 yrs.
<u>Kentucky</u>	Same as Alabama; except that 1799. limitation as to age.	<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Judges appointed by Gov. & Senate; Judges of Supreme Court for 15 years; Judges of Com. Plus for 10 yrs. Specified by law. All may be removed on advice of 2/3 of legislature.
<u>Louisiana</u>	Same as Kentucky 1812. 1814.	<u>Rhode Island</u>	All judicial officers annually elected by the Gov. Company: or 2 years of specially selected electors.
		<u>Tennessee</u>	Appointed by joint ballot & held 1790. during good behavior.
		<u>Virginia</u>	Judges appointed by joint ballot: to high Court for 12 yrs. Inferior Court for 8 years. 1834.
			Judges elected by joint ballot, held every good behavior; may be removed by concurrent vote of 1/3 of the legislative.

W[illiam] Collins to John Fine.

February 16, 1849

Library of Congress, MVB Papers 4 pages (total 9)
 [With: Memorandum regarding Judicial System of England; Notes, in
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 in the American states]

Michigan } Judges appointed by Gov &
1835 } Senate : hold for 7 years.

Arkansas } Appointed by joint ballot
1836 } hold for 8 years.

Florida } Judges appointed by concurrent
vote of both Houses of Legislature.
Those first elected to hold 5 yrs.
Afterwards the term is during
good behavior, may be removed
for cause by Gov. or by 2/3 of
legislature.

Texas } Judges appointed by Gov. & 2/3 of
Senate : hold six years.

Iowa } Judges appointed by joint
ballot - hold six years.

Wisconsin }

New York } 5. Super. &c. &c. of Appeals
2. 2d. elected
for 8 years

Vermont } 1. Judges elected by the House
1793. 3. of Rep's. in conjunction
with the Council "annually,
or often, if need be."

W[illiam] Collins to John Fine

February 16, 1849

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[With: Memorandum regarding Judicial System of England; Notes, in
hand of Smith Thompson Van Buren, regarding appointment of judges
in the American states]

Silvers Spring Feb 17 1849

my dear Sir:

You are right, I think in your
opinion that our Ohio Appeal is taking money
in his State to thwart what he considers the lawfulness
of the Colonels' course in relation to the freed slaves.
There has been a want of good feeling between them
for some time - a very fair attack of the Colos in each
house & so on the question of all of Oregon & were
was the beginning of this alienation. The coming
together on the nomination of Capt. Lee showed over
the break. The winded fastness against it more
unintelligible -

I was in town to day, & as my time
since the beginning of the month I find every
body on their oars not knowing which way to pull.
Longfellow made a speech to day to bring in California
as strong & foremost as west side. He was put aside &
I take they will be the result of the question further to push.
The Anti-Catholics of the South, are exceedingly anxious
for a settlement of the question - What think you, Hayne
of the two sides joined against the Union if the thing
Keig having gone in for it? The big story is told by
the fact that House voted to suppress the Colos
in the Senate and passing this bill & name in the
life that Alabama may be called on to give up its
Catholics. General Harriet means to stay the
13.

The principles for the whole South. You may expect a pronouncement from him against the Southern nullifying before the end of the session.

I was astonished to day to find in the City, leading a prodigious revection of old comrs. On my way to the Capitol I was saluted with a continual shouting of the few from their right - pocket balconies. He seems to have fallen in the mark of Wisconsin. In the Senate old Garrison ^{totally} recected me with a kindly grip. I never spoke to him before - He looks very brown & wears a ring the color of mustard - going into the House he had the plaudit recognition of the anti-slavery side. Mr. Sedgwick my old master here proclaimed unanimously ~~for~~ for forgiving any sin, because of my late contempt for both of us and the fellow feeling I had with them in the saving up of Capt. by their general Taylor. It always used to put me off to walk with the worst of the whigs - and there was poor Frank who was compelled to challenge one Hunker Doctor in St Louis for taking him to task for making the whig organ of that city the vehicle of some article in defense of Col. Weston against a conspiracy of the old men for him or his son. And except the whole power of our party those three do not dream a strength when we are added to a whig darky organ for safety against the masters, are we not ready? - The masters

of the Regimes of Taylor & Polk have really brought
the Democracy of the Jackson & Van Buren period to a
sad pass - Old Hickory proclaims himself as his last
man as the locomotive of this world has the head
of this self styled ^{the same man responsible} Democracy running the country and
he will remain to attend the funeral of the Taylor
Administration - If Polk ^{in consequence} is the last rattle on
Calhoun's tail - is to be the head of the great
Non-contr. party of the United States for the next
four years what is to be its fate? Is it likely
that he will bring the present gangway into
his fold with Calhoun's money - or can he com-
mand this Ishmaelite crew to unite with any
part of the old Democracy - truly I think Polk's
mission organ has proved pretty effectually
the party which installed Polk; the Globe being
a mouthpiece - I think some of our northern friends
in this party should notice Hickory's self importance
relative & show however kindly without the ^{opposite} ~~any~~ ^{hostile}
hostility against ^{hostile} ~~any~~ ^{hostile} ~~any~~ ^{hostile} ~~any~~ ^{hostile} ~~any~~
public meeting, etc. the Committee of Congress as
expressed by ~~an~~ act ~~and~~ ¹³¹⁵⁰ ~~Polk~~ ^{and} ~~any~~ ^{hostile} ~~any~~ ^{hostile} ~~any~~ ^{hostile} ~~any~~
claiming to be the representative of the Democracy
of the Union. He ought to go with the easy droppings
of Polk into the sewer where it will all
disappear -

It is given me here that Calhoun
will not come into the cabinet - I asked my
son Rose ^{to day} whether it was certain - He
said there was a ¹³¹⁵⁰ telegraph despatch by the way

of Pittsburgh is that effect - but that the process
from whom it proceeds was not at present &
he thought it was not authoritative. But Mr. [redacted]
disputed this, that Clay can had been illegitimate.
it was only his in regard to the framework. When
young Cuttenden observed this he said he was
He said when he came to Washington some
months ago he thought his father would not drought
not to take a place in the cabinet. but Old
his opinion had changed & he had advised Mr.
Adams by - I think it probable that Cuttenden
may feel that an analogy would be drawn be-
tween his taking Clay off ~~the~~^{the} stage & the
officer under Clay & his clay Kelley H.
Genl Jackson to get office under Adams
or may be he means to let there be a stand-
off betw. the cabinet without any
in the cabinet at first, that he may be called
in at last to settle a contest which cannot be
quietly settled him - or may be his hostility will
induce him to stand off, as a means of
having the adhesion taken from the process
his presence would be to Clays attack upon us. &
keeping out of view until they are begin, he
may then come, & assist them obtain great power
for this, what he prefers all concur in having his
their cause.

Again, I dear you in has the why various important
question in this. After this not so a man to get from having a the
breath of the session com. You have his signature back that he
will not have the peace - the election will probably go over -
you find W. H. C.

My dear Sir.

I cannot bear myself
the pleasure of saying to you how
delighted we all are with the
news recd. last night by telegraph
of yr. election to the Senate -
We have had waiting, & been
praying but hardly dared
pronounce ourselves such a for-
tunate result. - You will find
in King, Biddle, Wilson,
Robt. Tidwell of Mass. H. C. Tracy
Co. editor in the N.Y. L.J.
Lper, home with yr. Boston in
the Senate - whom of Mass. I
hazard you do not know - he
is one of the ablest & best men
in the country. Please remember
me to thy good wife & tell her my regards
- the campaign has been
so accumulated & diversified by business so
that it is impossible for me to write
letters. I show him this last evening
in print - truly & S. J. Van Buren

J. Van Buren
Another March 1st,
Am? March 6th 49
New York, Feb. 23, 1849.

J[ohn] Van Buren to [Salmon Portland Chase] February 23, 1849

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania
Chase Manuscripts

1 page (total 2)

Saturday Evening Feb 24 1849

My dear Sir:

You will, I suppose, find many
considerations of the legislation of others, & - & reasons I
have no doubt that they have been induced to do so
to vindicate the right & course of their [representatives]
in opposing existing agitating topics, and to stop the
other tendency of popular, & well held support from
very candidate who may be disposed to exceed
the prescribed limits. - It will appear to day
that he had lost his election because he had
failed to keep up the progress of the age.
Well be ought to be well informed the friends -
that I was sorry to see many old friends dropping
off, & by me from the seats, they
had deserted - and that I believed, that it was
because they had seen one knocked in the
head by Polk without regarding a fit we for
their "trumper" and had caused to take
their cue from old Hickory for four
years - after tried the tally in my seat
"yes!" had wished to fit we over the administration
in which had struck the party - that he
began it on the Oregon Bill, but could get
no support from his old friends and was
obliged to lay hold of Capt. Lippincott
The renomination of Polk -

that supporting the rotans for four years left no
alternative but to take one when they arrived
he might be compelled to support or lose the election - that
the imminent dissolution of the family had
broken down the old leaders and that his
best road probably was Mr. Ponting.
You see from this where his thoughts had
He concluded by telling me that there was
not a friend but a sound abolitionist
who would tolerate the measure, & carry it
forward - for his own part it was his full
duty to lay by a few years - that he
would not interfere in "state politics"
by being candidate, the state ^(Government) off'c,
He thought it probable however he might
make some little stir in his state
in the next presidential election in case
we had a northern candidate nominated.

The debate you see goes on very diff.
- mainly on the ^{appropriation} ~~appropriation~~ Bill which
is turned into a territorial Bill - Walker
of Wisconsin (being an arsonist for 8 years)
has set his instructions at ^{deplorable} classes at O'Brien
and goes on for the Southern scheme - I think
from the symptoms, that I see to day, that
big or some second Yankees will play

Hen says, when the report is made to the Senate
Committee and he will offer a perfect territorial
Bill for the project whatever is owing to that
is struck into the original Mexican Bill. This will,
at least, compel the dough faces to show
their hands - They will probably defend their
votes against a Southern Bill upon the
score that Polk has promised a
vote - but they will be but a lame
apology when the measure being embodied
in the Bill is dispensed for the support
of God, would make the vote amount
to a sort of suicide of the East. The Northern
men, therefore, would hold ^{immaculate} in this way
two votes of Southern Presidents if
they chose - and no one would blame
them, inasmuch as this compulsory
mode of legislation originates with the
instrumentality of the South. They are working
it through up in the Senate of the House - all
but my friend, Mr. Channing steps
in his place - I worked him up to day &
told him I was sorry to catch the Senator
asleep on his post. He said it was the very way
¹⁰¹⁵² to end preserve the senatorial gravity in such a ridiculous
case -

The city is full of opportunities and the old
youngocracy is likely to be run down as
rapidly as the old corn from the northland.
He is sick already & Davis himself is visiting
Henry Home tells me that the speakers in
of a crowd at a meeting desired to know of
the host, who, were the Government's regulations
about seeing visitors? Willard told
him he had no rules but those he
would see nobody. As I have not been
a sturdy ^{Opposition} man and have got ^{Opposed} a little ^{Opposition} into
it on the road, telling him that "his President was sick"
he ^{had} said of him dashed if he had called. The why
told him he was sorry it was not Clay - "Yes
said" I would speak, which tells me due to
they had seen Taylor & heard him speak
as he did in his reception they now ^{were} armed ^{and} ready
"with fire arms" I think! Taylor with a Clay
President would soon run down. If it is
to be composed on the general conjecture
now, it will be worse a thousand fold than
Tylers. There are 50 arms of ^{and} 1000
among states passing somebody. I believe
with the old fellows within 1000 of them
against such incursions I suppose he is equal
to those commissioners, that his very safety
will be in Black, who is a man of sense, though
no Genius and I thank you for the suggestion to your
husband. I will keep you posted when I have
had better news.

No. 3. Warren St. New York,
February 27th 1849 —

My Dear Sir.

Hoping to enjoy the pleasure of a personal interview, I have, till now, forbore to trouble you with a letter; but as my presence in the city, will be necessary to my business till about the first of June, I beg you will pardon my sending this with the accompanying bucket.

When I addressed you from Milwaukee and Ann Arbor, last Fall, I hoped to remove to Milwaukee early this Spring; but an unexpected turn in my private affairs, a turn quite favorable, may make it for the interest of myself and family to postpone our removal at least another year.

Publishers are still on the look out for available matter for the press. I have three volumes now in process of stereotyping — one a labored scientific work of many years' preparation — and two other volumes are contracted for, to be ready for the press within the current year; and while attending to these things, I have determined to go to work, energetically, on the History of the United States, for which I have been preparing notes during intervals of leisure, for ~~several~~ years. If I can finish the work in ~~three~~ years, I shall deem myself fortunate.

I feel the embarrassment of my position in asking you to look over the accompanying manuscript; but notwithstanding the extent of your correspondence and the perpetual drafts upon your time, I shall be greatly obliged if you can find time enough to run over it, and give me your views. Besides,

I have another object in sending to you the plan of the work. No part of the work, you must be aware, will be more difficult than the "Finance," and no part of this will be so difficult as that of fully and fairly exhibiting the facts, and the philosophy of the facts, growing out of, the incompatibility, or disconnection, of Governmental with commercial finance.

The battle of Patriotism against Corruption, began at the close of General Jackson's first term, which raged during his second, and was continued during the administration of his successor, which was finished in the fall of 1840, by the triumph of Delirium and Corruption, was really won, (when human wisdom and virtue failed,) by the interposition of Heaven in the death of the honest but too pliant Harrison, and the disruption of his cabinet and the party; as when, of old, God bethed the heathen pile in the plain of the land of Shinar, and came down to confound the language of the idol-worshippers, and scattered the idolaters abroad on the face of the earth.

The harmony and advantages of the Subtreasury are witnessed, though not admitted, by all; and Time, the great rectifier of popular mistakes, is setting his

sent of approval to the fore-cast and patriotism of its projector; and when its ~~partizans~~ enemies shall have passed away, or have become, as they are becoming, too few and faint to act in concert.

"Their sons will blush their fathers were its foes." You must excuse me, Sir in soliciting that if retirement leaves you any leisure, ^{time,} you will employ some of it in preparing the history, personal and pecuniary, of the whole struggle with the Bank, and the Subtreasury, ^{together} with the causes, views and consequences to us, and a philosophical exposition of the whole affair — and then allowing me to make what use of it I choose, and what shall be consistent with the place of the work — the manuscript, at your election, to be returned, lest a suspicious, party-divided populace should minister but very reluctantly in asking this favor, and gains in granting it. This, I don't wish to have remain entirely with ourselves.

I hope that in June, or, at furthest, in July, I can gain time for a call, if I may call, to consult further on this subject.

Hon M. Van Buren.

With Great Respect, I am

Yours, Oliver B. Peirce

P.S. On my return from the West to Rome, I had the satisfaction to find, waiting for me, your too flattering letter, acknowledging the receipt of two, of three numbers of my Lives.

Please to inform me simply whether or not you receive
from Amherst ^{the package} (Part 3 of the Crises,) with a letter enclosing a
pamphlet "take-off" respecting yourself. If so, as it is
enough for the present, that I know the manuscript.
Part 3 is with you.

As to the pamphlet enclosed in the letter from
Amherst, I should deem it fortunate, that amidst the
convulsions of forty years which have made the con-
tinent shake and reel to its base, I had committed no greater
or errors than the malice of friends, enemies, have thus
assayed to reveal - and certainly I thank "the gods"
that Dysonnes had thus recorded and indexed
with so much industry and care, every thing which
was even suspectable in my actions or my motives
that I might have these things as a basis of notes to
be prepared by me, for my biographer. True,